

Claims 1 and 5-32 are pending in this application. Claims 14, 27 and 30 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter recited therein. Claims 1, 17, 31 and 32 remain as the independent claims.

Claims 14, 27 and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as claiming the same invention as claim 1 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,372,389. It is respectfully submitted that the rejection is moot in view of the cancellation herein of claims 14, 27 and 30.

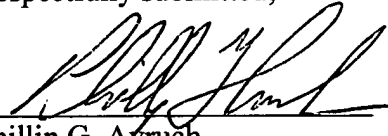
Claims 1, 5-13, 15-26, 28, 29, 31 and 32 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-9 of U.S. Patent No. 6,372,389. It is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome by the submission herewith of a terminal disclaimer compliant with 37 CFR §3.73(b). Entry of the terminal disclaimer and withdrawal of the obviousness-type double patenting rejection are respectfully requested.

In summary, it is submitted that this application, as amended, is in condition for allowance. Such action, and the passing of this case to issue are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner feel that a conference would help to expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned counsel to arrange for such an interview.

Payment in the amount of \$510.00, for the fees associated with the Terminal Disclaimer and Petition for Extension of Time being filed herewith, is submitted with this Amendment. If the payment is missing or insufficient, please charge the shortage to our Deposit Account 18-0002 and notify the undersigned accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,



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October 16, 2002

Date

PGA:tl

AMENDMENT

(10/025,783)